

ISAAC BARD

was born at Bardstown, Ky., Jan. 13th, 1797. He was graduated at Union in 1821 and afterwards at Princeton theological Seminary. He went to Greenville, Ky.; engaged in teaching, bought a home and entered into trade for a few years. From 1837 till his death, he remained on his small farm near Greenville. He labored diligently as a missionary through the Muhlenburg Presbytery, organized several churches, procured funds from two or three States for the erection of a Presbyterial Academy at Elkton, Ky., and also for a Presbyterial college at Greenville. He preached for a time regularly to three or four churches. He was appointed a County Officer but declined. He died suddenly, July 29th, 1878, leaving a widow, three sons and two daughters.

ISAAC BARD, '21

b. near Bardstown, Ky., Jan. 13, 1797; U. C., 1821; (2/); s. s. R. D. ch., near Schenectady, N. Y., '20-21; ord. Pby. Muhlenburg, July 26, '23; p. Greenville, Mt. Zion and Mt. Pleasant, Ky., '23-35; s. s. and miss. in Ky.; fin. agt. educ. for Pby.; d. near Greenville, Ky., June 29, 1878.

From: Princeton Theological Seminary Catalogue 1817-1868

Rev. ISAAC BARD, 1821, of Bardstown, Ky., was a member of the Adelpic Society.
Adelpic Catalogue 1830 (Died: 1878)

1821

May 12 1855

To *Isaac Bard* of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 1820
(or, if deceased, to the friend or relative who knew him best :)

SIR,—

It is the aim of the subscriber, in collecting the information asked for by the following questions, to obtain materials for a concise Biographical Catalogue of the Trustees, Presidents, Professors and Tutors of Union College;—of those who have received Honorary Degrees from it, and of all who have ever entered that Institution, whether Graduates or not.

That such a work would be interesting and useful to the Alumni, will not be denied; but whether it be practicable, will depend chiefly upon the ready aid which they shall impart. This circular will be sent to every Graduate whose residence is known, (or, if deceased, to some near connection,) and it is confidently expected that no one will neglect to return it in due time, with as full information as circumstances will allow:—some of the questions, indeed, it may not be possible to answer with certainty; others not at all: still, it is hoped that no important facts will be withheld because of their fewness.

Death has removed the twenty-four original Trustees, the first three Presidents, the early Professors and Tutors, and from eight hundred to one thousand of the Alumni of the College. Doubtless their friends and descendants will cheerfully contribute such information as may be necessary to illustrate the lives and services of the departed.

The subscriber desires every aid that may help to throw light upon the personal history of those concerned:—Obituary Notices; Biographical Sketches, Epitaphs, Funeral Sermons, Newspaper Notices of election to important offices or stations, Business Cards and Advertisements; also, copies of their Literary Works, Addresses, Sermons, Essays, Newspapers, engraved Portraits, &c.; all of which will be deposited and preserved in an Alcove of the College Library, to be set apart for “Graduates’ Works.”

He also requests that all future changes affecting the answers which shall be given, be made known to him from time to time:—especially the deaths of Graduates, and that the usual obituary notices or funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths hereafter once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, *Librarian.*

UNION COLLEGE,
SCHENECTADY, N. Y. }

SPECIMENS OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES FOR THE PROPOSED CATALOGUE.

John Glidden Brown was born in Quinipeck, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Glidden) Brown, who moved to Epsom, N. Y., in 1806. He was prepared for College at Helderbergh High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 1817. He studied law with Hon. Septimus H. Smith, of Great Falls; was admitted to the bar in 1821; and commenced the practice of law in Albany, with James S. Van Hoesen, Esq. In 1830 he moved to New-York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-5; State Senator 1836-8; Member of Congress 1839-41; and Judge of the Superior Court 1842-6. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides occasional speeches, orations and opinions, he wrote a work on constitutional law, and edited the N. Y. State Papers. He received the Degree of L. L. D. from Hamilton College in 1846.

Joseph Henshaw Luther was born in Hanover, Mass., June 1, 1798; parents, Joseph and Madeline (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John Almy, Esq., Principal; and entered Union College Sept. 1814. He taught, 1818-20, in East Philadelphia, (Penn.) High School; graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1823; and was ordained Sept. 25, 1823, at Marblertown, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Haseltown, Conn., 1825-30; Professor of Rhetoric in Erie College 1831-40; retired on account of ill health, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He has published six sermons on various occasions; a series of lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and the “Communicant’s Companion.” He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 23, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmony and Mary (Pennington) Radway; was prepared for College at High Holme School, Rev. Hanover Kelton, Principal; entered Union College Sept. 1795; taught a few months in Suncook, Mass., in 1799; studied medicine with Dr. Jonas Physic and Dr. Abram Potecar, of Camermile; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Rhine, in 1806. He was Surgeon in the Army 1813-15, and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1815, where he has since resided. He lectured in the Fairhaven Medical School on Anatomy and Physiology, 1830-5, and has published several articles in the New-York Medical Review, and two larger works on the “Functions of the Brain,” and on “Gunshot Wounds.”

- N. B. 1. Let the answers to the following questions be as full and *authentic* as possible: but when doubtful let them be marked thus (?).
2. When the person is deceased let some near relative or friend fill out the blanks to the best of his knowledge; if he have but *one fact*, let that be sent.
3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and no more.
4. In case this sheet be not sufficient to contain all the facts to be sent, add another of the *same size*, if possible, leaving an inner margin of not less than one inch for binding.
5. In cases where no answers to this circular shall be returned, the editor will be obliged to publish such names without any biographical notices, or to rely upon information, gathered from other sources, and, therefore, not always authentic.

UCSCLaf1821bard-1-0002

Greenville, Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. May 3 - 1835.

Mr Jonathan Pearson, Librarian in Union College Schenectady New York.
or Sir. I graduated at Union College or rather the degree was conferred in 1821.

A Minister of the Gospel in the Presbyterian Church (old school)
I was licensed to Preach by the New Brunswick Presbytery of New Jersey

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE FOREGOING SKETCHES.

I ordained in 1823 at Greenville Ky by the Muhlenberg Presbytery.
I since that time I have been alternately Pastor, missionary agent in the
Presbytery.

[Let this be written plainly and the middle names in full.]

II. Names of both Parents; thus:—

[John and Elizabeth (Smith) Johnson.]

my mother's name before marriage was
Mary Kincaid, who married Wm Bard
my father. My mother came from Virginia & my father from
Pennsylvania. They settled early in Kentucky.

III. Birth Place.

I was born 4 miles of (Birth Day and Year) Bardstown Ky
January 13 - 1797. I am now 58 years old

IV. Various residences and dates; thus:—

[Pittsfield, Mass., 1814-24; Albany, N. Y., 1824-30; New-York City, 1830-54.]

I settled in Greenville Ky in 1823 & lived
there until 1836 & then I removed 6 miles west of Greenville
& have lived here since, near Greenville Ky.

V. At what Academy or Academies prepared for College, with Principals and dates; thus:—

[Albany Academy, Benjamin Allen, L. L. D., 1815-17.]

I studied at the
Bardstown Academy in Kentucky & other schools, until I went
to Union College in the year 1819. I entered the senior class
& graduated in 1820, but the diploma was not conferred
until August 4 - 1821.

VI. At what College he graduated, and when.

VII. The occupation he followed after leaving college before studying his profession; thus:—

[Teaching, Washington, D. C., 1847-48, or Merchant's Clerk, New-York City, 1849-51.]

VIII. The profession he studied; where; with whom; when; thus:—

[Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1822-5 or Law in Albany, N. Y., with Hon. Harmanus Bleecker, 1840-2.]

I studied Theology in Kentucky
with the Rev Joseph Lapsley 6 months & 2 years & 1/2 at Princeton
New Jersey.

IX. Where he has practised his profession, with dates; and in case he be a clergyman, mention the denomination to which he belongs;
thus:—

[Epis., Somerville, N. J., 1827-30; Pres., Albany, N. Y., 1830-5; New-York City, 1835-54.]

X. The other occupations he has followed; when and where; thus:—

[Merchant, Rochester, N. Y., 1829-35; or Farmer, Geneseo, N. Y., 1835-54; or Manufacturer, Schoharie, N. Y., 1841-48; or Professor, teacher, banker, editor, &c.]

XI. The important offices he has held,

[Surrogate of Jefferson Co., N. Y., 1839]

XII. The Literary or Scientific Works

[Copies are solicited for the "Graduate"]

XIII. The names of his relatives who

Who lives at

I have an only Brother, Wm Bard
Osola Arkansas.

XIV. The literary, professional, or hon

[M. D., from Albany Medical College 1]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of h

[One or two copies, together with his a

XVI. The date, circumstances, and pl

[Send any printed notice, biographical
questions, in which case add an addit

S Hiram Givins of Morganfield Kentucky
Graduated at Union College, from Kentucky. He
became a Lawyer & practised a few years
at Morganfield, took the bonapartism, & died in the
Island of Cuba. Also the Rev R J Brackenridge graduated,
I think, the year before me. I need not tell you of
his splendid & distinguished career. He is now Professor in
the Theological Seminary at Danville Ky. Yours truly.

Isaac Bard

XVII. General information respecting character, services, success, interesting passages and events in his life, &c.

XVIII. Some account of his pedigree and family ; its original seat in this or the old country, &c., &c.

XIX. List of such graduates as may not be *widely* known ; their residences, professions, dates of deaths, &c. ; the name and residence, also, of some near friend of the deceased, that further information may be sought for ; thus :—

[John Orton Smith, Banker, Chicopee, Mass., died 1848. His brother, Joseph H. Smith, resides in Springfield, Mass.]

The Reverend Isaac Bard came to Muhlenberg in 1823, then in his 26th year and from that time for almost a half century led a very active life in the community. No local preacher was better known in his day than "Preacher Bard." It is quite probable that during his more active ministerial career he was heard by every citizen then residing in the county. Those who listened to his sermons evidently remembered the fact, for although he died 35 years ago all the older native-born citizens now living, and to whom I have mentioned the name of Isaac Bard, invariably remarked that they had heard him preach.

He devoted about half his time to ministerial work; much of the remaining he gave to his farm on Bard's Hill, south of Depoy. He owned extensive tracts of timber lands in the Pond River country, on which he ranged his stock. It is said he was often heard calling his hogs with a fox-horn. He was a tall, muscular man, kind and generous to every person with whom he came in contact, and extremely gentle to all animals. One who knew him well says: "Preacher Bard was a scholar and a gentleman of the old school. He was one of the most sober looking and at the same time most pleasant men I ever met. I remember he always had cold feet and usually kept them wrapped up in heavy cloths, and frequently complained of the discomfort."

Isaac Bard was a son of William and Mary (Kincaid) Bard, and was born in Nelson County, Kentucky, near Bardstown, January 13, 1797. He died at his home, seven miles west of Greenville, June 29, 1878. After spending a few years in Transylvania University, Lexington, he began, in 1817, a course in Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey, and on April 27, 1820, was licensed to preach. During the same year he entered the Senior Class of Union College, Schenectady, New York, from which he was graduated in 1821, and shortly after returned to Kentucky;

On July 26, 1823, he was ordained in Greenville by the Muhlenberg Presbytery and immediately took charge of the Presbyterian Church at Greenville and the congregation at Mt. Zion, near Green River. In autumn of the same year he organized Mt. Pleasant Church, near Pond River. These three congregations remained in his charge until about 1833. During this period he built a brick church in Greenville on a lot presented by pioneer James Weir. The old brick house was long ago abandoned as a place of worship, and is now used as a warehouse.

After the year 1833 no congregation was solely under his supervision, for from that time, and continuing for many years, he extended his ministerial work among many of the Presbyterian churches in Muhlenberg and all the adjoining counties. In 1862 when the division of the Presbyterian Church took place, Mr. Bard adhered to the Southern General Assembly.

On March 15, 1827, he was married to Matilda Miranda Moore, daughter of pioneer Maurice Moore. They were the parents of five children: Henry Clay Bard; Luther Bard; Mrs. Verone Mary (Carrol) Larkins; Mrs. Martha Amaryllis (R.P.) Howell; and Doctor Lafayette Bard, all of whom made Muhlenberg their home.

When in 1823, Isaac Bard first came to Muhlenberg, many of the Revolutionary soldiers and other pioneers were still alive. He was a college man, who from childhood had been in touch with the progress made in various cities and centres of culture and refinement. His constant association with the pioneers and their children undoubtedly had an influence in modernizing their habits and practices, and on the other hand, living among these people, many of their characteristic manners and customs became his own.

Farms, in those days, were few and far between. The county was still regarded as a new country. Most of the sermons heard by the local people were delivered by men who, although deeply interested in religious work and well versed in the Bible, had a limited knowledge of theology and of logic. When Mr. Bard appeared on the scene he found a good field for the exercise of his college education and religious training. The uneducated as well as educated recognized his ability as a "sermonizer."

He kept pace with the times at home and abroad, and in some respects was ahead of his day. He lived during that period of the country's history when "freedom and liberty" were known to be permanently established, and fighting for them was therefore no longer one of the principal objects in life. Local political questions, although discussed from the time the country was organized were rapidly becoming more and more the leading topics of the day. Among some of the citizens the acquiring of land and wealth was gradually becoming the sole object in life. Isaac Bard was swayed by these times. He not only performed the duties of a preacher and a doctor and looked after his farm, but also took an active interest in national and local politics, and in the meantime, like some of the other citizens, invested in land. He was the first man to advocate the draining of the Pond River bottoms, and about the year 1850 made an attempt to dedeeem some of the rich soil he owned below Murphy's Lake, but owing to the abundance of other good land, not subject to overflow, and owing to the scarcity of labor, he abandoned the work. When, a few years after the Civil War, the building of a railroad was proposed, Mr. Bard was enthusiastically in favor of a bond issue, for he realized that such means of transportation was necessary for the upbuilding and advancement of the county.

In addition to the above biographical sketch, there are the following:

1. Letters to Henry Clay, quoted from "The Private Correspondence of Henry Clay" pp. 196-198
2. Extracts from his Diary pp. 198-205
3. Bard's "Lecture on Muhlenberg County. pp. 205-207.
4. Portrait p. 195

A History of Muhlenberg County (Ky)
Otto A. Rothert
John P. Morton & Co.,
Louisville, Ky. 1913.

Isaac Bard

A. B.

1821

Isaac Bard

1821
F. B.